

INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY/DISTRICT
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
INTERNAL NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Property/District Name: Pifer House Survey Number: (AL-VI-B-039)

Project: MD 936 S. of Klondike Road, Midland, AL Co. Agency: FHWA

Site visit by MHT Staff: X no yes Name _____ Date _____

Eligibility recommended _____ Eligibility not recommended X

Criteria: A B X C D Considerations: A B C D E F G None

Justification for decision: (Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map)

According to the Coal Region Survey, the Pifer House, a one-and-a-half story, frame, double house constructed circa 1870, is of interest as an excellent example of a relatively small double house, a house type commonly constructed by Coal Companies in the area for workers dwellings. The most common form for a double house during the latter half of the nineteenth century was a one-and-a-half or two story building with a four bay facade. The two entrances were usually at either end of the front facade and a single shared chimney was centered between the two units. A number of other double houses were identified in the Coal Region Survey. Although the Pifer House is representative of this common type, it is not significant enough to merit individual listing and is not located in any known district.

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: Inventory form AL-VI-B-039

and Ware, Donna M., Green Glades & Sooty Gob Piles, p.69, project file

Prepared by: Rita Suffness, Donna Ware

Elizabeth Hannold May 12, 1992
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services Date

NR program concurrence: X yes no not applicable

DT R. Anderson
Reviewer, NR program

13 May 92
Date

Survey No. AL-VI-B-039

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA - HISTORIC CONTEXT

I. Geographic Region:

☐ Eastern Shore (all Eastern Shore counties, and Cecil)
☐ Western Shore (Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles,
Prince George's and St. Mary's)
☐ Piedmont (Baltimore City, Baltimore, Carroll,
Frederick, Harford, Howard, Montgomery)
☒ Western Maryland (Allegany, Garrett and Washington)

II. Chronological/Developmental Periods:

☐ Paleo-Indian 10000-7500 B.C.
☐ Early Archaic 7500-6000 B.C.
☐ Middle Archaic 6000-4000 B.C.
☐ Late Archaic 4000-2000 B.C.
☐ Early Woodland 2000-500 B.C.
☐ Middle Woodland 500 B.C. - A.D. 900
☐ Late Woodland/Archaic A.D. 900-1600
☐ Contact and Settlement A.D. 1570-1750
☐ Rural Agrarian Intensification A.D. 1680-1815
☐ Agricultural-Industrial Transition A.D. 1815-1870
☒ Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930
☐ Modern Period A.D. 1930-Present
☐ Unknown Period (☐ prehistoric ☐ historic)

III. Prehistoric Period Themes:

☐ Subsistence
☐ Settlement
☐ Political
☐ Demographic
☐ Religion
☐ Technology
☐ Environmental Adaption

IV. Historic Period Themes:

☐ Agriculture
☒ Architecture, Landscape Architecture,
and Community Planning
☐ Economic (Commercial and Industrial)
☐ Government/Law
☐ Military
☐ Religion
☐ Social/Educational/Cultural
☐ Transportation

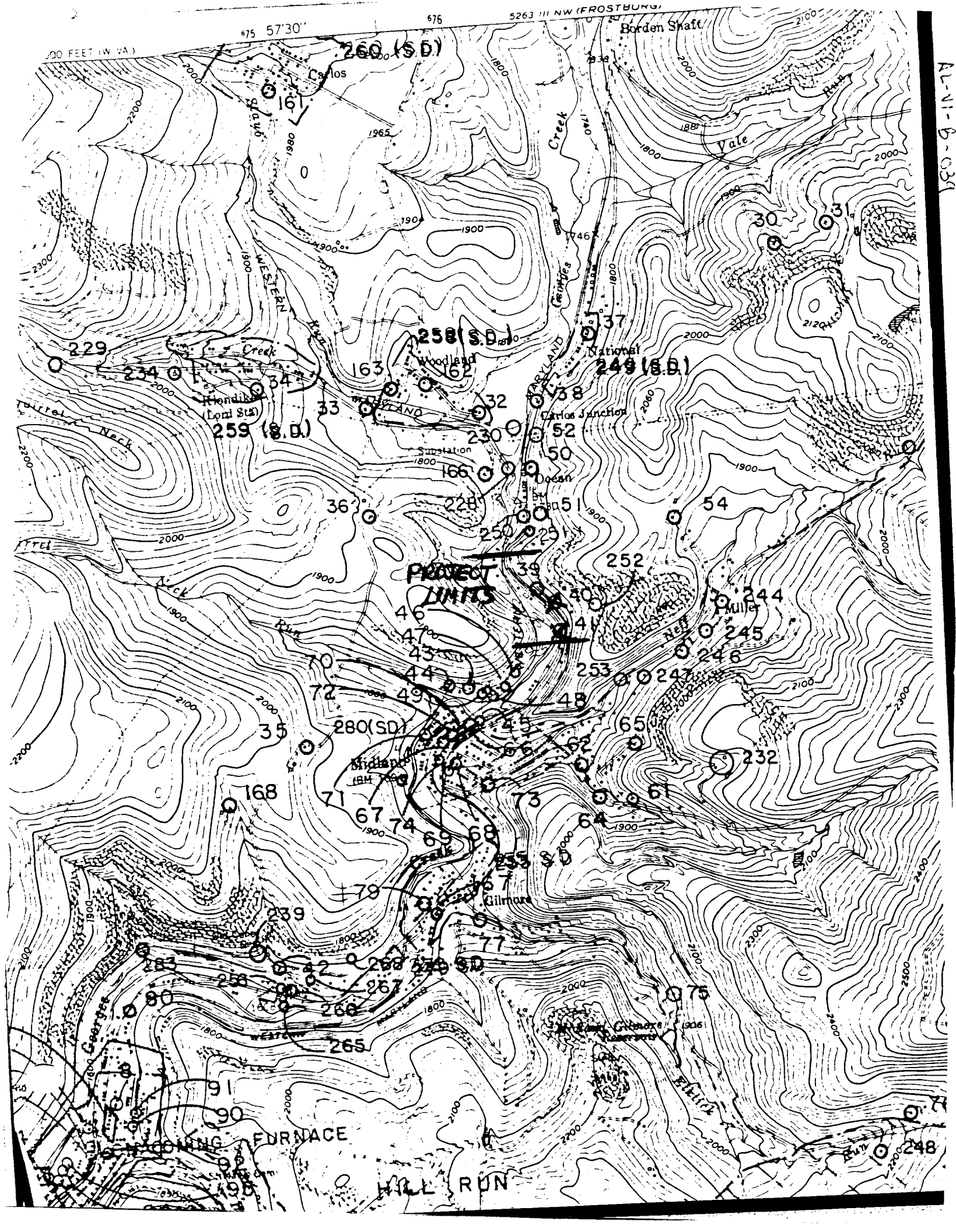
V. Resource Type:

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): Multiple Dwelling

Known Design Source: Unknown



AL-N-6-039

AL-VI-B-039

PIFER SALTBOX

East side of Route 36, Midland, Md.
ca. 1870

The Pifer Saltbox is typical of a "block" or a two family dwelling constructed by the Consolidation Coal Company in the second half of the 19th century. The house is one and a half stories high with a roofed porch across the main facade. The building has no cellar but rests on a low stone foundation. The frame was constructed of timbers mortised and tenoned together with horizontal weatherboard, which was originally whitewashed, on the exterior.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

B102795504

AL-VI-B-039

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Pifer Saltbox

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

East side of Route 36

CITY, TOWN

Midland

☒ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Sixth

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Allegany

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES RESTRICTED☐ YES UNRESTRICTED☒ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Beatrice Pifer

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

Route 1, Box 386

CITY, TOWN

Frostburg

☒ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Allegany County Courthouse

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

30 Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Cumberland,

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

AL-VI-B-039

CONDITION☐ EXCELLENT☐ GOOD☒ FAIR☐ DETERIORATED☐ RUINS☐ UNEXPOSED**CHECK ONE**☒ UNALTERED☐ ALTERED**CHECK ONE**☒ ORIGINAL SITE☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Pifer Saltbox is located on the east side of Route 36 in Ocean, Allegany County.

The Pifer house is a one and a half story, four bay wide, rectangular frame saltbox that is covered with weatherboarding. The structure rests on a low stone foundation. The roof is gabled with visible rafter ends and is covered with tin. The roof line is interrupted by two gable roofed dormers with three over three lights. Windows in the structure are double hung, pegged, wooden sashes with six over six lights. Two entrances are located on the main facade and feature replaced doors and hardware. They are covered by a hip roofed, two sided, wrap around porch. A small, rectangular, board and batten addition is located on the south side of the house. The house has two corbeled brick chimneys, one located in the interior of the main house and one at the outside end of the addition.

The Pifer Saltbox is in fair condition and retains much of its original fabric and appearance.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES ca. 1870

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Consolidation Coal Company

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Ocean Mines was one of four major mines owned by Consolidation Coal Company. The Consolidation Coal Company was established in 1864 and eventually became one of the largest bituminous coal company in the United States.¹ In 1871, the company owned 311 dwelling houses, and in 1873, it listed among its assets dwellings at the mines worth \$115,045.²

The Pifer Saltbox is typical of a "Block" or a two family dwelling constructed by a coal company in the second half of the 19th century. These houses were usually one and a half stories high with a roofed porch across the front of the house. There were no cellars but the houses were set on low stone foundations. The frame was constructed of timbers mortised and tenoned together with horizontal white washed weatherboard on the outside. Inside, rooms were plastered and painted. Rent for such a building cost a miner approximately \$4.00 per month which amounted to a little over 12% of a miner's annual income.

1 Katherine A. Harvey, The Best Dressed Miners, (Ithaca, N.Y., 1969) p.9

2 ibid p. 78

3 ibid p. 83

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Allegany County Land Records, Cumberland, Maryland
 Harvey, Katherine A., The Best Dressed Miners, (Ithaca, N.Y.)
 Cornell University Press, 1969

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .33 acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

John Nelson, Joan Baldwin & Steve Beale

ORGANIZATION

Allegany County Historic Sites Survey

DATE

12/7/76

STREET & NUMBER

507 National Highway

TELEPHONE

777-8991

CITY OR TOWN

LaVale,

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
 The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401
 (301) 267-1438

INVENTORY NO. A1-VI-B-039

#3 DATE: 11/23/76

.33 Acre

REMODELING: Drastic, moderate, minor

NAME OF PROPERTY: Pifer Salt box

LOCATION OF PROPERTY: East Side Rt. 36

Map 47

A 57 - or 167

DIRECTION DWELLING FACES: West

NAME OF OWNER: Brace Pifer - M.D. Coal & Realty Co.

ADDRESS: Rt. 1 Box 386 Frostburg Hope Rd
Frostburg MD 21532 689-8895

STORIES: 1() 2(☒) 3() 4() 5() 6() BAYS: 1() 2() 3() 4(☒) 5() 6() 7() ()

WINGS, ADDITIONS:

Dwelling Shape: (square, cross, rectangular)

WALL CONSTRUCTION:

- (☒) FRAME: Bevel, clapboard, weatherboard, wood shingles, board & batten (type?)
- () BRICK: Bond type- common, English, Flemish. Sketch variants.
- () STONE: Bond type- rubble, ashlar (random or regular), quoins-plain, rusticated
- () LOG
- () Other: Coverings

WALL FEATURES: BELT COURSE, PILASTER, OTHERS _____

FOUNDATIONS: HIGH, LOW, BRICK, STONE

WATER TABLE: NONE, PLAIN, BEVELED, MOULDED BRICK

WINDOWS, TRIM, SHUTTERS: 1/1() 2/2() 6/6(☒) 9/6() 9/9() other()
pegged (☒) nailed() wide() narrow (☒) mitred() pediment()

ENTRANCE, DOORS: LOCATION: _____

HARDWARE: original(☒) replaced(☒)
FAN LIGHT, TRANSOM, SIDE LIGHTS, PLAIN
Paneled, Verticle, Horizontal Boards

CORNICE, BARGE, EAVES: (crown, fascia, soffit, bed)
original() replaced() Rafter Ends, Modillions, Dentils, Frieze,
Architrave

ROOF: GABLE FRONT, GABLE FLANK, HIP, SHED, LANSARD, GAMBREL, FLAT, BOMERS # 2
MATERIAL: wood shingles, slate, tin, asphalt original() replaced(☒)

PORCHES: SHAPE OF ROOF - shed() hip(☒) gable()

CHIMNEYS: NUMBER 2 BRICK(☒) STONE() CORBELLED(☒) original(☒) replaced(☒)
LOCATION: Flush end(☒) Inside end() Outside end() Central() Interior (☒)

ARCHES: Door and window: Keystone, Flat, Segmental, Semicircular

COMMENTS:

Use - residence
Significance - miner's house
Date Constructed - 1860's
Condition - fair

SECTION VI QUADRANGLE B

STATE OF MARYLAND
MARYLAND GEOLOGICAL SURVEY





A1-VI-B-039

Piper Saltbox

Rt. 36, East side

Ocean

John Nelson

11/23/76

Southeast



A1-VI-B-039

Piper Saltbox

Rt. 36, East Side

Ocean

John Nelson

11/23/76

Northeast